

City Of San Diego COUNCILMEMBER MARTI EMERALD DISTRICT NINE

MEMORANDUM

REF: M-13-03-03

DATE: March 18, 2013

TO: Honorable Mayor Bob Filner

FROM: Councilmember Marti Emerald

SUBJECT: Halt Permit For Carmel Properties at 63rd & El Cajon Until

Revisions To Plans Are Approved.

My office and constituents in the Rolando neighborhood have grave concerns about a project now under construction at 63rd and El Cajon Blvd. The long stalled "Carmel Luxury Apartments" project is the latest incarnation of a plan originally envisioned and entitled as condos/apartments and mixed use retail space.

It now appears this project may really be a sprawling dormitory for upwards of 1100 students who attend San Diego State University. This is the last thing residents of Rolando want encroaching on their quiet neighborhood. Yet, the city's Development Services Department now informs us new permits were issued recently for the Carmel project, without any notice to our District 9 Council office, that may clear the way for a mega-dorm in Rolando.

The Rolando community and our council office have made it abundantly clear at town hall events and other public meetings for the past five years that a dormitory is an unacceptable use for this property. How or why DSD would issue new permits on this high profile and controversial project without at least alerting our office is shocking to me and I want a full explanation for this action.

I also want an immediate halt to this construction project until we receive an acceptable answer, and binding assurances from DSD and the developer of the "Carmel Luxury Apartments" that this project will not be built and marketed as a student dormitory.

Because of the urgent nature of this issue, we hope you will support us in this effort.

cc: Kelly Broughton, DSD